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'Growthmanship'

Editor: I would like to inform J. L. Hartford that the term "growthmanship" was not a catchword created by the Democrats, as his letter stated, on August 9. Mr. Nixon and his Madison Ave. boys created this "gem" for a June 21, 1960, speech to the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce. Nelson Rockefeller made a statement on June 8 which charged that the American economy was not keeping pace with the Soviet rate of economic growth. In reply to that statement, Mr. Nixon accused the Republican critics of the present inert administration of playing the game of "growthmanship."

In the New Republic of July 11, 1960, Mr. Nixon is quoted as saying: "My Khrushchev boasts that he will catch and pass us in seven years. By any projection that can be applied there is no possibility that the Soviet economy will overtake our own at any time in this century."

What Mr. Nixon failed to understand or to believe was a Central Intelligence Agency report published in May, 1960, entitled, "Soviet Manpower 1960 - 1970," which estimates the rate of growth of the Soviet gross national product at \$120 billion in 1950; \$225 billion in 1960; and \$420 billion in 1970.

MRS. W. CLAY MERIDETH
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